

**High-density XBT cruise AX080414 report**

**Ship : Maersk Vilnius**

**Call sign : 9V8503**

**Ship Rider : Alistair Blair**

**Dates XB's deployed : April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup> 2014**

- a) **XBs deployed : 512**
- b) **Floats deployed:** No floats were deployed.
- c) **Profiling drifters deployed:** 6
- d) **Equipment tools and supplies needed:** Batteries for headlamp (3 AAA) and silicon spray
- e) **Problems:** There were very few problems encountered on this trip with only minor difficulties at certain points. One of the problems that arose was when significant rainfall, thunderstorms or wind occurred readings were affected. This could possibly be due to the high humidity during rainfall. Additionally, the MK21 had to be swapped out twice during the voyage as after continuous use it would fail once to twice per day. However no significant damage had taken place to the MK21. Furthermore days that had irregular readings were: 05/08/14, 05/11-12/14 and 05/20/14. As noted above this was due to weather.
- f) **Recommendations:** A solution to the MK21 failing might be to use a different backup power source. As for the issues during different weather events I am unsure there is a solution.
- g) **Other narrative:** The Captain, officers and crew of the Vilnius were exceptionally hospitable whilst I was aboard. As always it is a pleasure to sail with the crew.
- h) **Ship contact:** Captain Mario Gaylan  
**E-mail:** 908vilnius@maersk.com